



W.E.B welcomes executives of Wärtsilä Findland Oy for a “Groundbreaking” occasion

Aruba’s energy providing agency, W.E.B. (Water-En Energierbedrijf) N.V. was proud to welcome Mr. Mika Rapeli, of Wärtsilä Findland Oy for the groundbreaking ceremony on three new energy plants that will enormously increase the capability and efficiency of Aruba’s energy production. The official groundbreaking was witnessed by W.E.B. N.V. executives and press members on Thursday afternoon, along with executives of the N.I.B. Capital Bank (NA) N.V., the financial institution that has organized the financing for the twenty-six million dollar project. Also present was the management of Thiel Corporation, the Ploytechnisch Ingenieurs Bureau N.V. and Fichtner GmbH. & Co. KG, the subcontractors and engineers responsible for the design and work on the new plants. Each plant will produce eight megawatts of power, for a total of twenty-four megawatts, augmenting W.E.B.’s power producing capabilities sufficiently to meet the increasing demands of Aruba. Wartsila, Finland Oy is one of the world’s leading supplier of ship power and most of the cruise ships plying the seas use their engines. They are also the leading supplier of decentralized power generation, worldwide, used by sixty-five countries from all corners of the globe.

Mr. Rapeli took the opportunity of this event to present Mr. Jossy Laclé, General Manager of W.E.B. with a symbolic shovel to commemorate the occasion, and a number of the partners in this project donated to various worthy causes on the island as a gesture of good will in this joint venture.

Diana King and Erica Dedier of Meals on Wheels gratefully accepted a check from Jossy M. Laclé for the assistance they give to the less fortunate and disabled.

Mr. Anthony Thiel, of the Thiel Corporation, subcontractor to Wärtsilä Findland Oy, and responsible for the construction of the facility that will house the generators made a donation to John Fun and Felicia Cooper of “Pan un Man pa Cris nos Muchanan” an organization that provides a good breakfast to schoolchildren from homes that cannot afford to do it themselves.

Finally, Mr. Leon Hamers of the P.I.B, N.V., handed over a check to Mrs. Joan Coronel of the “SOS Teleayudo,” an adult hotline available for all those that need a comforting voice to talk to, or advice on where to get help, if needed.

Mr. Rapeli expressed the hope that the partnership of Aruba and Wärtsilä Findland Oy will continue long after the completion of this “turn-key” project, which should be completed by June of this year, and will be fully serviceable by the end of July. This past year, Aruba’s energy demands increased to a record seventy kilowatts per month, tripling the energy demands made on the W.E.B. facility since 1990. The management of W.E.B. asserts that the completion of these three generators, combined with a new substation that went online this past year should be more than capable in meeting the island’s energy requirements over the coming years. In a final gesture, Jossy Laclé donned a hardhat and climbed behind the wheel of a massive groundbreaking bulldozer to finalize the official start of towards the completion of the facility.